

STRAIGHT FROM THE STATEHOUSE

MCGREEVEY SPENDS DAY WITH PUERTO RICAN GOVERNOR

Governor McGreevey joined Governor Sila M. Calderon of Puerto Rico in her efforts to increase child immunization rates and promote the right to vote. "Governor Calderon and I encourage all families to take advantage of the free and low-cost immunizations available in their communities," said McGreevey.

To demonstrate the ease of voter registration, two Governors also each registered a New Jersey voter outside Paterson City Hall. "Today we take another step toward asking all citizens to exercise their Constitutional obligation to register and vote," said McGreevey. "Voting is a sacred American duty."

There are numerous locations where residents can obtain registration forms. The forms can be completed and mailed, postage paid, to the State Division of Elections or the appropriate County Commissioner of Registration. Forms and information are also available on the Division of Election's Web site at: www.njelections.org.

MCGREEVEY GETS TOUGH ON SCHOOL BULLIES

Governor McGreevey signed legislation requiring school districts to adopt anti-bullying policies.

"Our children deserve to receive a quality education in a safe environment, where they are free from threats and harassment," said McGreevey.

The law requires districts to adopt policies prohibiting bullying, harassment and intimidation on school property, at school-sponsored functions, or on school buses.

MCGREEVEY RECONGNIZES STATE POLICE PROMOTIONS

At a State Police promotion ceremony, Governor McGreevey praised the New Jersey State Police for commitment to excellence and their efforts to redefine their operations. The Governor highlighted a series of new internal and external policy initiatives under way at the State Police and outlined plans for a new headquarters and training complex as well as new trooper classes.

McGreevey stressed that New Jersey is committed to supporting the State Police with state-of-the-art facilities, technology and training to fulfill its critical mission of safety and security. "These initiatives are essential," said the Governor.

MCGREEVEY SUPPORTS TAX REFUND FOR SEPTEMBER 11 HEROES

Governor McGreevey declared his support for legislation to refund 2000 and 2001 New Jersey income tax payments for the heroes, who died in the September 11 terrorist attacks. The Division of Taxation has extended the 2001 Income Tax filing deadline to December 31, 2002. This will allow families to defer paying income taxes while the Legislature passes the bill and sends it to the Governor.

"We have a moral obligation to support the families whose lives have been forever changed by the events of September 11," McGreevey said. "It is most appropriate for New Jersey to waive the State Income Tax payments of those who perished in the attacks."

MCGREEVEY LAUNCHES BOOK CLUB

Governor McGreevey has launched the Governor's Book Club. Working with Scholastic Book Clubs, the Book Club will encourage students to develop the habit of reading. On the first Thursday of every month from September through May, the Governor will announce his age-appropriate book selections – one each for kindergarteners, 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders -- on NJN, New Jersey's public television station, at 6:26 p.m.

For More Info:
<http://www.state.nj.us/governor>